

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-12, 14-18, 20-28, 30-34, 36-44 and 46-48 are currently pending in the present application. Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 7, 8, 10, 11, 23, 24, 26, 27, 39, 40, 42 and 43 and the indication of allowable subject matter with respect to claims 22 and 38. With entry of this amendment, Applicants amend claim 24. Reexamination and reconsideration.

Applicants have amended claim 24 to correct a minor informality.

The Examiner rejected the remaining pending claims based Murata (2002/0012437) either alone under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) or in combination with other references under § 103(a).

Applicants respectfully submit that Murata does not qualify as prior art under § 102(e). Murata was filed on July 27, 2001. The present application was filed on January 17, 2002 and claims priority to a Japanese application filed on January 23, 2001. Because the priority application was filed before Murata, Murata does not qualify as prior art under § 102(e). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that all the rejections based on Murata be withdrawn.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.55(a)(4), Applicants have previously submitted a translation of the Japanese priority application on February 18, 2005. Applicants herewith submit again a translation of the priority Japanese application for the Examiner's benefit.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If, for any reason, the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 892-5630 to discuss any steps necessary to place the application in condition for allowance.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing Docket No. 393032030500.

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Respectfully submitted,

By

Mehran Arjomand

Registration No.: 48,231

MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP

555 West Fifth Street, Suite 3500

Los Angeles, California 90013

(213) 892-5200